DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 367 766 UD 029 787

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TITLE Practical Ideas for Multicultural Learning and Teaching in the Primary Classroom.
REPORT NO ISBN-0-415-03641-0
PUB DATE 89
NOTE 173p.
AVAILABLE FROM Routledge, Chapman, and Hall, Inc., 29 West 35th Street, New York, NY 10001-2299 (cloth--ISBN-0-415-03908-8; paperback--ISBN-0-415-03641-0).
PUB TYPE Books (010) -- Guides - Non-Classroom Use (055)

EDRS PRICE Document Not Available from EDRS.
DESCRIPTORS Communications; *Cultural Awareness; Curriculum Development; Educational Change; Educational Objectives; Educational Practices; *Elementary Education; Ethnic Groups; Foreign Countries; Interpersonal Relationship; Mathematics; *Multicultural Education; Self Esteem; Social Development; *Teaching Methods; Thinking Skills
IDENTIFIERS British National Curriculum; *England; Reform Efforts

ABSTRACT

The practical application of multicultural education to the British elementary school classroom is discussed, taking into account the 1988 Education Reform Act and the attainment targets of the British National Curriculum. Part 1 explores the historical development of multicultural education, considering sex and class inequality and local and national educational practices; and makes suggestions for improvement. Part 2 suggests practical ideas for explicit and hidden curricula. Seven themes for ethnically diverse topics include: (1) celebrations; (2) communications; (3) journeys; (4) shelter; (5) homes; (6) food; and (7) hats and head coverings. For each area, teacher aims and pupil objectives are defined and potential resources are listed. Self-esteem, self-awareness, the awareness of others, relationships, and thinking and questioning are explored as aspects of social and personal development in a multicultural context. The interweaving strands of language diversity, ethnic diversity within mathematics classes, and ethnic diversity around the school are discussed. (Contains 112 references.) (SLD)

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